

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUANDA 00404 041830Z

20

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 OC-06 CCO-00 A-01 PER-05 SY-04

USSS-00 OPR-02 /137 W

----- 013049

R 031430Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2675

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0404

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT CG

SUBJECT: PERSISTENT ZAIRE COUP RUMOR

1. FOR PAST WEEK (STARTING MAY 27) BUSINESS AND EXPATRIATE CIRCLES IN LUANDA HAVE BEEN BUZZING WITH RUMORS OF ACCOMPLISHED OR EXPECTED COUP D'ETAT IN ZAIRE AGAINST MOBUTU. WE FIRST HEARD RUMOR FROM OIL COMPANY SOURCES (INCLUDING BELGIANS). ONE EXPLANATION OF RUMOR IS THAT IT STEMS FROM FOREIGN RADIO BROADCASTS IN FRENCH. (NO ONE ABLE TO PINPOINT WHENCE BROADCASTS EMANATING, NOR IN FACT HAS ANYONE WE TALKED TO ACTUALLY HEAD BROADCASTS.)

2. GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES HERE CONFIRM FACT OF RUMORS BUT SEEM AT AS MUCH OF A LOSS AS EVERYONE ELSE TO EXPLAIN THEM.

3. COMMENT: LUANDA HAS ALWAYS BEEN PREY TO RUMORS. IF UNTRUE MOST VANISH QUICKLY. THIS ONE IS PARTICULARLY PERSISTENT.

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BRIGGS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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